

# STOP THE INVASION- REPORT THIS PEST

## ***Banana Bunchy Top Virus***

Maui County Priority Pest for Maui, Lanai, and Molokai:

### **Banana Bunchy Top Virus**

**(BBTV)** is a deadly pathogen that has been found in upcountry Maui. The virus is spread through the movement of infected plants. There is no cure for this virus.

### **Symptoms**

- "morse code" dark green streaking on the leaf stem
- signs of the banana aphid (*Pentalonia nigronervosa*)
- mottled and streaked flowers
- dark green streaks with "J" shape on midrib



Dark green "morse code" stripes



Young plants showing signs of banana bunchy top virus



The banana aphid spreads the virus

## **Don't mistake Banana Bunchy Top Virus for these look-alikes:**



### **Cucumber Mosaic Cucumovirus (CMV)**

CMV is also spread by the banana aphid, but does not cause significant damage to banana fruit.

#### **Symptoms:**

- flower mottling and streaking
- Does not cause the "morse code" leaf streaking pattern of BBTV infected plants



### **Nutrient Deficiencies**

Severe deficiencies of nutrients like calcium and boron can cause yellowing and deformed growth of banana leaves.

Report online: [www.reportapest.org](http://www.reportapest.org)  
Call in a report  
Maui/Lanai: 573-6471 Molokai: 553-5236

**nbi** Pacific Basin  
Information Node  
<http://pbin.nbi.gov>